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**NEWS FROM THE PLUMBING INSPECTORS
City of Winston-Salem**

The following information is provided from the Plumbing Inspections Department of the City of Winston-Salem. All newsletters that have been sent out can be accessed online @ www.cityofws.org/Home/Departments/Inspections Look for Newsletters, Plumbing Monthly.

INSPECTORS AREAS CHANGED

The areas have changed for some of the Plumbing Inspectors. Please see our home page @ www.cityofws.org . Or go to www.cityofws.org/Home/Departments/Inspections/Articles/FormsAndFees . Look for Inspector Territory Maps.

Questions from contractors:

With the increased popularity of the use of solar energy does the NC Plumbing Code have more than one reference than code 601.2 on these systems?

Answer:

YES, NC Plumbing code 101.3 Intent. The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location, operation and maintenance or use of plumbing equipment and systems.

As code 601.2 states Solar energy systems used for heating potable water or using independent medium for heating potable water shall comply with the applicable requirements of this code. The use of solar energy shall not compromise the requirements for cross connection or protection of the potable water supply system required by this code.

Code 612.1 states, the construction, installation, alterations and repair of systems, equipment and appliances intended to utilize solar energy for space heating or cooling, domestic hot water heating, swimming pool heating shall be in accordance with the NC Mechanical Code.

The NC Mechanical Code has all of Chapter 14 dedicated to solar systems and references the Plumbing Code and the Building Code as well as other sections of the Mechanical Code.

In short the installation of a solar potable water heating system is referenced in more than code 601.2 and would have to comply with the NC Plumbing Code and all references there in that apply. Also with Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County Inspections, if the solar system is going to share with supplying energy for heating the living spaces then that part which is installed for heating potable water shall be permitted under a Plumbing permit and that part which is installed to heat the living space shall be permitted under a Mechanical permit.

Items you wish to discuss please e-mail me and we will respond to your questions and also we will include what we can in our monthly letter. Thank you for all your comments and concerns.

Please send any comments to Jamesr@cityofws.org we would like to hear from you.

Thanks

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